

Message Text

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20

ACTION PM-04

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R 080853Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 478

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMCONSUL TANGIER

CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENG

COMSIXTHFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 6552

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR MO MARR PFOR

SUBJECT: FIRST U.S. NAVAL VISIT TO MOROCCAN MEDITERRANEAN PORT -
AL HOCEIMA

1. USS GRAND RAPIDS AND USS DOUGLAS (WITH TOTAL COMPLEMENT OF 50 OFFICERS AND MEN) UNDERTOOK FIRST VISIT OF SIXTH FLEET VESSELS TO MOROCCAN MEDITERRANEAN PORT OF AL-HOCEIMA BETWEEN NOV. 20 AND 24. HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT WAS CHARACTERIZED BY FULL PARTICIPATION BY AND COOPERATION FROM SENIOR GOM MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING GOVERNOR OF AL-HOCEIMA, MARINE CORPS COMMANDER OUMGHARI AND OUR CONSUL GENERAL FROM TANGIER. THERE WERE NO NEGATIVE INCIDENTS.

2. MOROCCAN NAVY AND OFFICIAL CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE SURPASSED USUAL AMENITIES ACCORDED SIMILAR EVENTS, PROBABLY BECAUSE THIS WAS FIRST U.S. NAVAL VISIT TO AL-HOCEIMA, AND AS A REFLECTION OF CONTINUING GOM DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH UNITED STATES. ABSENCE OF MOROCCAN MEDIA COVERAGE WAS IN KEEPING WITH PAST GOM AVOIDANCE OF EXPLOITATION OF U.S. NAVAL VISITS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES VIS-A-VIS ALGERIA.
ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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